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**Storm... & Stress**

By MYRON ROBERTS

As a boy I was always impressed—if not entertained—by Kay Francis movies.

A Kay Francis movie can be defined as one which tells the story of a mature, but still glamorous woman who has achieved success in the world of Big business at the sacrifice of Love, a Home and a Family.

The story always began with a scene in the svelte, modern offices of an obviously money-making woman's magazine, or a department store or some other suitable feminine enterprise. There, seated at her glittering oak desk, dictating to four secretaries and barking orders at a retinue of cringing males, was Kay Francis—her hair cut (for that era) unfashionably short, dressed in a severe but shapely suit, wearing glasses and a touch of pink lipstick.

Tiger, Tiger... Miss Francis was a real tiger—especially when it came to making decisions. She never faltered, never hesitated, never doubted—like Caesar she said "do this" and it was done.

But then along came grinning, handsome, polo playing millionaire George Brent. He alone was not frightened by the facade of a feminine tycoon—for he knew that underneath that blue suit beat the heart of a warm and vibrant woman—a lonely woman who yearned for Love.

I was impressed not by the love story but by Miss Francis' fearsome efficiency. My erotic inclinations may have been filled by visions of Ann Sheridan and Lana Turner—but if ever I needed advice on the stock market I knew that Kay would be the gal to supply it.

I don't know what ever happened to Miss Francis—the depression was on in those days and movies about poor people were far more popular than they are today. Millionaire Movies were popular too, of course, but the millionaire in that era spent most of their time playing polo or chasing each other around in their yachts and it was regarded as unfashionable—if not downright vulgar—to show rich people actually at work.

In the face of this prejudice, Miss Francis disappeared from the Hollywood Heavens.

Guess Who? Well we dropped in to the local movie the other day to catch "The Man In The Gray Flannel Suit"—and there was the old Kay Francis movie—somewhat altered in appearance to be sure—but still made up of the same basic substance—the conflict between love and a Career.

Replacing dear old Kay—who presumably has gone on to General Motors was none other than Fredric March, cast in the role of the Lonely Executive. Also thrown in, for the Sex Angle, were Jennifer Jones and Gregory Peck enacting the roles of a Junior Executive and his ambitious wife struggling onward and upwards toward \$10,000 a year.

Fuzzy Soul As the Sage of the Suburbs unfolds, it becomes clear that Gregory, the Man in the Grey Flannel Suit, is also developing a Grey Flannel Soul. He borders on the precipice of becoming a "yes" man because he is afraid to lose his job. His children are all but swallowed by the one-eyed monster called TV; his wife flings herself on the green suburban lawn and moans—in the midst of all this Gregory just wonders about in a Grey Flannel Fog thinking about the good old days of World War II when, in Churchill's phrase, "it was equally good to live or die."

In counter distinction Mr. March, as the man who made it, lives a rich but elegant life in his penthouse suite. Flowing about in a gorgeous white robe like a modern Genghis Kahn, or even a Lana Turner, March is occasionally troubled by the fact that his wife weeps endlessly and his daughter hates his guts—but then back to business and the making of a buck.

The moment of decision comes when Peck must choose between comforting Jennifer—still rolling around in voluptuous misery on that neatly trimmed lawn—or fly off to a "conference on the West Coast" with tycoon March.

Sadly but proudly Gregory says "no, I'm one of these 9 to 5 guys," and with this stern act of renunciation go all his hopes of Glory and \$10,000 a year.

To say that movies of Big Business Executives—which are really Kay Francis movies in disguise—have become a fad is like saying that milk appeals to babies.

The Chips Are Blue The hero of American Life and Letters in this year of 1956 is the Executive winging his way to a conference on the coast instead of military glory and romantic conquest we have substituted power and economic ease. Don Juan is no longer a lover of women—except casually and in a recreational sense—he is a lover of money

and power: His heart beats not for a maiden's kiss or the enemy's scalp—but for a favorable statement of net worth.

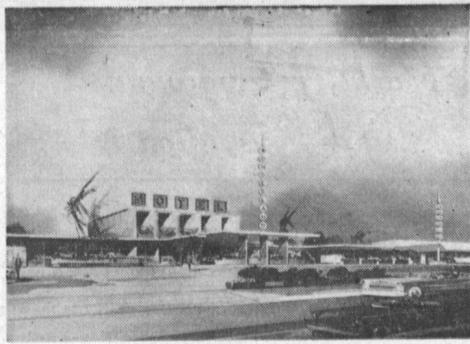
All of which is, I suppose, to be expected in an era of abundance. Gone are the memories of the depression and a ragged John Carradine haunting the alleys and garbage cans of the slums. In his place we have March in a flowing white robe.

We are at ease in Zion and the custodians of our national conscience have instructed us to make the most of it.

For who knows when the time of the locusts will return.

**Chamber Exec Attends School Board Meeting**

Tom Watson, manager of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, will attend a week-long



LUXURY MOTEL NEAR DISNEYLAND

Construction of Wonderland motel to be erected on a 5-acre site directly opposite Disneyland and adjacent to the Disneyland hotel will be started soon, it was announced today by John J. Cox, President of U.S.A. Motel Corporation. Designed by the architectural office of Ashton & Wilson, with H. B. Stratton as contractor, Wonderland Motel will first have 100 units, all with TV, and administration building with lobby and lounge, a restaurant and cocktail lounge, a luxury swimming pool, outdoor barbecue and full family recreation facilities. Subsequent plans will expand the operation to accommodate 800 people. Stock in Wonderland Motel is available only to residents of California.

training school for chamber executives at Stanford university beginning this Monday, he disclosed today.

The training program is being sponsored and conducted by the Western Institute.

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**Busy Corner to Get Stop Signals**

Elimination of cross-conflict traffic hazards was the reason given by County Supervisor Burton W. Chace for the establishment of boulevard stop regulations on each side of Edgar st. at its intersection with 220th st. in the Dominguez district. Chace said the new stop signals will require traffic on 220th

st. to stop before entering Edgar st. and that the stop signs are being placed because of increased traffic volume in the area.

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**THE DENTIST SAYS:**

ERNEST J. TARR, D.D.S.

**MOUTH FEELS DIFFERENT WITH NEW DENTURES**

**Question—** "I recently had a new set of dentures made and my mouth feels so full. What can I do?" asks Mr. L. K. of Torrance.

**Answer—** When dentures are first inserted into a patient's mouth the experience is quite a strange one. He is overcome instantly with a feeling of fullness, and at the same time his salivary glands start working overtime, filling the mouth with a thick, ropy saliva. Both of these sensations pass off after the first few days when one begins to become accustomed to wearing the artificial dentures. Lips may stick out or budge at first, but after a few weeks they settle back to a normal position. Also muscles around the mouth will adjust themselves to the dentures and in a short time, when these muscles are under control and able to relax completely, a more normal appearance will present itself.

If you have any questions concerning dental problems, you want answered in this column, write to:

**DR. TARR**

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